

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 201258 POSS DUPE  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:TNILES:EK

APPROVED BY IO:GBHELMAN

IO/UNP:RLBARRY

AF:WEDMONDSON

-----025813 240210Z/21

O R 240058Z AUG 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

S E C R E T STATE 201258

EXDIS - LAGOS FOR MOOSE AND MCHENRY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SF' WA, MARR

SUBJECT:NAMIBIA: WITHDRAWAL OF SOUTH AFRICAN ARMED  
FORCES

REF: PRETORIA 4247

### 1. OUR INITIAL REACTION TO SADF INTELLIGENCE

DIRECTOR'S PROPOSAL (REFTEL) IS THAT WE WOULD NOT WISH  
TO BECOME INVOLVED IN EXCHANGE OF INTELLIGENCE

INFORMATION WITH SAG, EVEN IF OSTENSIBLE PURPOSE OF  
THIS ARRANGEMENT WOULD BE DESIRABLE AIM OF REDUCING

SECRET

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PAGE 02 STATE 201258 POSS DUPE

SADF PRESENCE IN NAMIBIA. MOREOVER, WE DO NOT WISH  
TO GIVE IMPRESSION THAT WE REGARD LEVEL OF SADF  
FORCES IN NAMIBIA AS IN ANY WAY A FUNCTION OF CUBAN  
FORCES IN ANGOLA. WE CAN, HOWEVER, SEE SOME  
ADVANTAGE IN USING THIS CHANNEL TO GET SADF TO THINK  
ABOUT HOW IT MIGHT PHASE ITS WITHDRAWAL FROM NAMIBIA  
AND TO SUGGEST TO SADF POLITICAL POINT THAT IT CAN

BEST COUNTER CUBANS BY ASSURING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT NAMIBIA WHICH IS FULLY ACCEPTABLE TO REST OF AFRICA. DEPARTMENT WOULD WELCOME ANY COMMENTS US DEL LAGOS OR EMBASSY PRETORIA MIGHT HAVE ON THESE POINTS.

2. ON SPECIFIC POINT IN REFTEL, DEPARTMENT WAS STRUCK BY STATEMENT PARA 2(D) THAT SADF INTELLIGENCE DIRECTOR "LEFT IMPRESSION THAT TOTAL SADF STRENGTH IN NAMIBIA WAS 30,000 TO 40,000 STRONG." THIS FIGURE IS FAR IN EXCESS OF OUR ESTIMATES OF SADF STRENGTH IN NAMIBIA AND COMES CLOSE TO 50,000 FIGURE USED BY SWAPO. WE WOULD APPRECIATE CLARIFICATION AND COMMENT THIS POINT, WHICH COULD BE OF CONSIDERABLE IMPORTANCE IN NAMIBIA NEGOTIATIONS.

CHRISTOPHER

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARMED FORCES, INFORMATION EXCHANGE, DEMOBILIZATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 24-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE201258  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** TNILES.EK  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NAMIBIA: WITHDRAWAL OF SOUTH AFRICAN ARMED FORCES  
**TAGS:** MARR, SF, WA, AO, US  
**To:** PRETORIA LAGOS  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009